(c) whether the ULFA militants had given any prior undertaking;

(d) what was the basis for according general amnesty to ULFA militants;

(e) whether ULFA still demand independent Assam; and

(f) whether they continue to refuse to recognise the sovereignty of India over Assam?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the State Government immediately after the receipt of information about adbuction of Mr. G. Sergei, Soviet Mining Engineer of Tipong Colliery, police rushed out in search of his whereabouts. All Police Stations and Para-militavy Forces were. alerted, road blocks were set up to search the passing vehicles. Search operations inprobable places were also conducted by Police and para-military forces.

(b) to (d) Accordng to the inforimation provided by the State Government, the Chief Minister has not declared any general amnesty. He has made an appeal to ULFA militants to give up their arms and come to the negotiating table and has offered to consider a general amnesty for them if they respond to his appeal. ULFA informed through a press release that Shri B. N. Jaiswal, Chief Geophysicist of ONGC and Shri G. Sergei would be released by them in exchange for release of six ULFA undertrial prisoners, whose names were given.

(e) and (f) There is no information that ULFA has given up its secessionist demand.

Phasing out of vehicle to check pollution

*149. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI; WiM the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to phase out old private, public as well as Government vehicles to check pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this also includes DTC buses and buses under its operation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) No decision has been taken to phase out old vehicles as a measure to check pollution. All vehicles allowed to ply on the road are required to have a certificate of fitness and also to conform to the regulations regarding pollution notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. This applies to DTC buses and buses under its operation also.

देश में इलेक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज

*150. डा० अब्दार अहमद : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे, कि :

(क) गत वर्ष देश में कहां-कहां नये इलैक्ट्रानिक एक्सचेंज खोले गये थे तथा राजस्थान सहित राज्य-वार प्रत्येक एक्सचेंज की क्षमता क्या है ;

(ख) निकट भविष्य में कहां-कहां नय इलैक्ट्रानक एक्सचेंज खोले जाने की योजना बनायी जा रही है तथा प्रत्यक की क्षमता क्या होगी ; और

(ग) क्या राजस्थान में किसी स्थान पर डायनामिक एस०डी०टी०डी० सुविधा उपलब्ध है, यदि नहीं, तो उसे कब तक उपलब्ध करा दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Names of large (MAX-I) Electronic Exchanges opened in the country, State-wise during 1990-91 are given in Annexure-I along with their capacity.

(See appendix 159, Annexure No. 18)

Besides 2903 Nos. of small and medium size Electronic Exchanges were also opened in the country during 1990-91. 149

Electronic Exchanges (all type were opened in Rajasthan as given in Annexure-]!.

[See Appendix 159, Annexure No. 19]

(b) Names of places where large Electronic Exchanges (MAX-I) are planned to be opened during 1991-92 alongwith their capacity are given at Annexure-III.

[See Appendix 159, Annexure No. 20]

Besides 4140 Nos. of small and Medium sized Electronic Exchanges are also planned to be opened in 1991-92.

(c) Dynamic S.T.D, facility is available in Rajasthan to subscribers served by E-10B Exchanges at Jaipur, Jodhpur and Sriganganagar.

Bus passengers killed in Ropar, Punjab

*151. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will. the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS - be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that about 30 bus passengers were gunned down in Ropar, Punjab, off the Kharar-Kurali main road by the militants on March 22, 1991;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to arrest the culprits;

(c) whether any security arrangements were made by the employees; and

(d) the compensation paid to the next of kin of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Punjab 27 passengers were killed and three others were injured near Kurali, district Ropar on 22-3-1991. Ten members of the killer gang were identified. Seven of them were killed in subsequent encounters with the police.

(c) No Sir. The employer, i.e., the Swaraj Mazda factory had not provided security arrangements to these persons.

(d) Ex-gratia grant of Rs. 50,000/- has beeen paid to the next of kin of those killed. The three injured have bean paid ex-gratia grant of Rs. 5,000/- each.

फिजी में भारतीय मूल के लोगों के साथ भेदभाव

*152. डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 12 मार्च, 1991 के स्टेट्समैन में "डिस्क्रिमिनेशन इन फिजी हाइलाइटड" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने फिजी में भारतीय मूल के लोगों के प्रति आर्थिक और राजनीतिक भेदभाव को बन्द करने के लिये फिजी सरकार के साथ इस मामले को उठाया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री माधव सिंह सोलंकी) (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) जी नहीं । स्वर्गीय डा० बवान्द्र के नेतृत्व वाली लोकतांत्रिक तरीके से चुनी गयी सरकार को सत्ता से हटा कर दिसम्बर, 1987 में सत्ता में आये फिजी के गैर-कानूनी शासन को भारत सरकर मान्यता नहीं देती है ?

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Tapping of telephones.

*153. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone tapping is still continuing;